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Chief, ST/I/R
Thru : Acting Chief, D/S

31 October 1957

Chief, S/COM

25X9A2

25X9A2
Requirement Relating to Possible Moscow
(USSR)

Background
(SECRET)

Information has been received that the Postal Administration of the USSR inaugurated on 1 March 1957 an underground pneumatic tube line following the Trans-Siberian Railroad between Moscow and Irkutsk. It is reported that the pneumatic tube line, designed exclusively for mail, is made of brass and is complete with compressors and relay stations along its route.

It is believed that the reported pneumatic tube line has been confused with two underground cables being buried in the same trench along the Trans-Siberian Railway from Moscow to Vladivostok. One of these cables is believed to be a multi-conductor communications cable already in operation between Moscow and Novosibirsk. The other cable is said to be highly secret and no information has been obtained as to its contents. It is thought, however, that it may be a coaxial cable of 4 to 8 coaxial "tubes" or "pipes". It is possible that "pneumatic" was mistakenly associated with "tube". Confusion could also be caused by the fact that coaxial cable systems require compressors to maintain nitrogen gas pressure in the tubes, and that coaxial cable systems also require relay, repeater, or booster stations along its route, 7 miles or less apart.

Requirements
(SECRET)

1. Is a pneumatic tube line under construction or in operation between Moscow and Irkutsk?
2. Are there any pneumatic tube lines for carrying mail in operation in the USSR?

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3. What is the progress of construction of the Moscow-Vladivostok cable lines?
4. Identify the types of cable being laid between Moscow-Vladivostok.

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ORR/S/COM: [REDACTED]:wlt/2841 (30 Oct 57)

Distribution:

- O & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - D/S ✓
- 1 - Requirements
- 1 - Area
- 1 - Chrono

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